



2015 Legislative Platform

City of Santa Barbara

Revision Date: 4/21/2015

CITY ADMINISTRATION	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: Issues regarding local authority, state and federal mandates, election law and administration, tort reform, open meeting law (Brown Act), the Public Records Act, the Political Reform Act, and other conflict of interest laws
LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISCRETION	ALL DEPARTMENTS	<p>Support the ability of local governments to enact local standards or regulations that differ from those enacted at the state and federal level regarding any issue described in the legislative platform.</p> <p>Oppose legislation or regulation that restricts local authority and discretion.</p>
STATE AND FEDERAL MANDATES	ALL DEPARTMENTS	<p>Support funding for any improvements, programs, and projects required of the City through state or federal mandates.</p> <p>Oppose unfunded state or federal mandates.</p>
OPEN MEETING LAW (THE BROWN ACT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Open Meetings</i> • <i>Restrictions</i> • <i>Closed Sessions</i> • <i>Privacy Rights</i> • <i>Personnel Issues</i> • <i>Property Acquisitions</i> • <i>Attorney/Client Privilege</i> 	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/CITY ATTORNEY	<p>Support legislation that recognizes the need to conduct the public's business in public. To this end, the City supports the regulation of the State Legislature and other public agencies to ensure conformance to the principles of the open meetings provision in the Ralph M. Brown Act.</p> <p>Support legislation that extends application of the Brown Act to the State Legislature.</p> <p>Oppose legislation claiming to enhance open and public meetings that in practice unnecessarily complicates the ability of a city to properly communicate with the public and that discourages communications among governing body members through unproductive restrictions and inappropriate activities.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that would impose further unnecessary restrictions on the action that a governing body can take in closed sessions.</p> <p>Support legislation that recognizes the realities of other constraints under which a local governing body must operate that necessitates judicious use of closed sessions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The privacy rights granted to individuals under the U.S. and California constitutions; • The personnel issues that have a potential impact on an individual's career and potential earning capacity and that raise serious liability questions for a local jurisdiction; • The protection of the taxpayer's interests over property and other acquisitions or sales by a public agency; • The proper maintenance of the same attorney-client privilege enjoyed by the private sector; and • The ability of the City to conduct sensitive business negotiations confidentially.
ALLIANCES	ALL DEPARTMENTS	<p>Support alliances with counties, schools, other cities, employee organizations, other local agencies, and business and professional organizations to support cooperation, sound financial policies, and joint action.</p>
POLITICAL REFORM ACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Practices</i> • <i>Local Authority</i> • <i>Reproduction Costs</i> 	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	<p>Oppose regulations and legislation that would restrict or preempt local regulation of campaign financing.</p> <p>Support appropriate efforts to improve and streamline the Political Reform Act and its implementation through regulations.</p> <p>Support an increase in the fee for the reproduction of statements required under the Political Reform Act from ten cents (\$0.10) to twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per page.</p>

CITY ADMINISTRATION		Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: Issues regarding local authority, state and federal mandates, election law and administration, tort reform, open meeting law (Brown Act), the Public Records Act, the Political Reform Act, and other conflict of interest laws
ELECTIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Costs/Procedures</i> • <i>Mail Ballots</i> • <i>Ballot measures</i> 	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES/CITY ATTORNEY		<p>Support legislation that reduces any unnecessary and costly procedures for conducting a municipal election.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that mandates costly and unnecessary procedures related to the local election process.</p> <p>Support vote by mail elections for a county election.</p> <p>Support the requirement that the intent and text of a local ballot measure is to be filed with the City Clerk with a filing fee.</p> <p>Support publishing the title of a local ballot measure in a newspaper of general circulation instead of the full text.</p> <p>Oppose legislation which would allow California Voting Rights Act lawsuits against cities that already have district elections.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that would mandate the dates on which to hold local elections.</p>
LITIGATION REFORM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Exposure</i> • <i>Liability</i> • <i>Business Climate</i> 	CITY ATTORNEY		<p>Support legislation that limits the exposure of local governments to lawsuits related to liability, including but not limited to such areas as unimproved natural conditions, design immunity, hazardous recreational activities, and injuries due to wild animals in public places.</p> <p>Support modifications to the joint and several liability laws that require the responsible parties in a civil action to pay only their fair share of judgment based on their relative responsibility.</p> <p>Support civil justice reform measures designed to improve the business climate in California. The City Attorney will evaluate these measures on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Support limitations on lawsuits that have little merit by eliminating the availability of provisions for fee recovery by petitioners or by authorizing cities to collect their fees and costs in cases where they are the prevailing party.</p>

REVENUE AND TAXATION	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: Issues and recommendations related to finance administration, taxation reform, revenue needs, and revenue sources at the federal, state and local levels.
EFFECTIVE FINANCING	FINANCE	Support meaningful fiscal reform that allows each level of government to adequately finance its service responsibilities.
LOCAL CONTROL	FINANCE	<p>Support local control and accountability for revenues raised and services provided.</p> <p>Support the protection of existing city revenue sources, including the local share of property tax, sales tax, and COPS funding, etc.</p> <p>Support the authority of local governments to collect revenues from telecommunications providers and ensure that any future changes are revenue neutral for local governments.</p> <p>Oppose any state or federal legislation that would pre-empt or threaten local taxation authority.</p>
ADDITIONAL REVENUE FOR LOCAL NEEDS	FINANCE	Support efforts to bring additional revenue to state/local governments to meet the needs of a growing population, service reductions, and deteriorating facilities and other capital infrastructure.
STATE MANDATES REIMBURSEMENT	FINANCE	<p>Support full and prompt reimbursement to all local agencies for all state-mandated programs and/or infractions and losses associated with local revenue shifts.</p> <p>Support reforms prohibiting the State from deferring mandate payments.</p> <p>Oppose unfunded state and federal mandates.</p>
DISASTER RECOVERY	FINANCE	Support disaster recovery legislation that mitigates losses experienced by local governments.
SALES TAXES	FINANCE	<p>Support efforts to preserve the existing Situs-based sales tax under the Bradley Burns 1% baseline.</p> <p>Support efforts to reduce competition for Situs-based new revenues.</p> <p>Support allocation of tax proceeds collected from internet sales to the jurisdiction where the product is received by the purchaser.</p> <p>Oppose circumvention of the principle of Situs-based sales.</p> <p>Oppose diversion of sales tax revenues from other regions in return for favorable treatment.</p>
TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX (TOT)	FINANCE	<p>Support efforts to collect the full amount of local transient occupancy tax from online sales of lodging.</p> <p>Oppose any legislation that would prohibit local voter-approved transient occupancy taxes.</p>
UTILITY USER TAX (UUT)	FINANCE	Oppose legislation that would prohibit local governments from collecting Utility User Tax from modern telecommunication and video technologies, including but not limited to cell phones, Internet-based telephone services (VoIP), pre-paid wireless services, and other wired or wireless technology.
REGIONAL REVENUES	FINANCE	Support the identification and implementation of multi-jurisdictional revenues in cases where regional issues, programs, and services are identified.
FRANCHISE FEES	FINANCE	<p>Support local government ability to receive compensation for use of its public-right-of-way, including but not limited to gas, electric, refuse, and cable and video providers.</p> <p>Oppose any legislation that would reduce video franchise fees or PEG access fees.</p>
PUBLIC, EDUCATIONAL AND GOVERNMENT (PEG) ACCESS TELEVISION	FINANCE	Support legislation that preserves PEG access television and allows PEG access funding to be used to support basic operational costs, including employee salaries, as well as capital maintenance and replacement.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Staff Liaison
Departments

Scope: issues related to the field of labor relations and human resource management.

LABOR RELATIONS

- *Local Authority*
- *MOU*
- *Mutual Agreement*

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Support efforts to promote, initiate, and improve both public and private sector labor- management relations.

Oppose interference with management rights or the ability of cities and their employees to bargain on matters within the scope of representation.

Support legislation that specifically exempts local public agencies from the requirement to negotiate with any labor or special interest group about matters submitted to the voters of that jurisdiction as initiatives or Charter amendments.

Support the long-held position of California courts that public employees cannot engage in strikes.

Support local government control of the budget process related to employee compensation.

Oppose any legislative action that requires the continuation of the terms of any Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between a public agency and an employee organization until a successor MOU is agreed upon.

Oppose the expansion of a local agency's collective bargaining responsibilities to employees over whose conditions of employment, the local agency does not have full control.

Oppose any extension of the State Public Employment Relations Board jurisdiction over local public agency labor relation disputes and charges of unfair labor practices, and to any interference or intervention in local collective bargaining by any labor-management relations councils or boards.

Oppose state-mandated compulsory labor arbitration, mediation, or fact-finding processes.

Oppose state-mandated paid time off for employee's union activities.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

- *Civil Rights/EEO*
- *Sexual Harassment*
- *Standards*
- *Family Leave*
- *Sexual Orientation*

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Support legislation furthering the purpose and clarifying the application of state and federal civil rights and equal employment opportunity laws.

Support consistent standards for discrimination and harassment claims between state and federal law.

Support efforts to conform the California Family Care Leave Laws to the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Support the amendment of federal civil rights legislation to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Oppose extending the filing dates for Fair Employment and Housing Commission (FEHC) charges, and oppose permitting the FEHC to provide affirmative or prospective relief to prevent the recurrence of an unlawful practice.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PERS)

- *Coalition*
Public Pension Systems
- *Exemptions*

ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES

Support the PERS Public Agency Coalition (PERS/PAC) and its efforts to maintain or further the interests of contracting agencies.

Support allowing changes to retirement benefits applicable to the prospective service of existing employees, consistent with the state and federal constitutions and other applicable law.

Oppose preemption of charter city authority over their public pension systems.

Support certain limitations upon recoveries under judgments against public retirement systems.

Support efforts to reduce retirement benefit fraud and a requirement that the PERS Board adjust or cancel the retirement allowance of any person convicted of making fraudulent benefit

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Staff Liaison
Departments

Scope: issues related to the field of labor relations and human resource management.

<p>CONTINUED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Limitations</i> • <i>Fraud</i> • <i>PERS Credit</i> • <i>Disability</i> • <i>Airport Patrol</i> • <i>Pension System Reform</i> • <i>Employer Rate</i> • <i>Part-Time Work</i> • <i>Mandates</i> • <i>CalPERS Board</i> 		<p>claims.</p> <p>Support efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing all disability retirement payments for employees hired after a certain date; • imposing an earnings test for persons receiving industrial disability retirement; • requiring state departments to identify annual unemployment and disability payments in separate budget items; • requiring persons receiving disability retirement payments to obtain an annual medical examination; • prescribing a 60% cap on payments for either job-related or non-job-related disabilities; • eliminating the tax-exempt status of disability retirement payments; • requiring mandatory reinstatement for employees certified able to work by medical exam; and • discontinuing disability retirement payments if the employee rejects reinstatement. <p>Oppose requiring an employer to continue to pay the salary of a member while PERS makes its decision on the member's application for involuntary disability retirement.</p> <p>Support restructuring the membership of the CalPERS Board of Administration to include new members appointed by the League of California Cities and substantially increase the number of independent public members (preferably with financial expertise).</p> <p>Support increasing the transparency of both PERS pension programs and funding, and non-pension post-retirement benefits and subsidies.</p> <p>Support exempting part-time, seasonal, and temporary employees from CalPERS eligibility entirely and eliminating the 1,000-hour eligibility threshold.</p> <p>Support legislation exempting local agencies participating in PEMHCA from the requirement to make contributions toward health benefits for retired individuals.</p>
<p>FEDERAL FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT (FLSA)</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES</p>	<p>Support the position that the FLSA was inappropriately applied to state and local governments through court decisions and was never designed to regulate public sector employment.</p>
<p>DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES</p>	<p>Support legislation that deletes the current state criteria that persons in a Domestic Partnership must be members of the same sex or be over 62 years of age.</p>

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS AND RISK MANAGEMENT Staff Liaison Departments <div>Scope: issues related to the field of labor relations and human resource management.</div>		
EMPLOYMENT- RELATED ISSUES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mandates</i> • <i>OSHA</i> • <i>FEHC</i> 	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	<p>Support the special protection of elected officials, county public defenders, public figures and public employees acting in their official capacity against threats of death or serious bodily injury.</p> <p>Support federal and state legislation affirming the establishment of tax-exempt employee savings accounts for retirement health expenses.</p> <p>Oppose a mandatory Social Security tax on any public sector employees or employers by the federal government.</p> <p>Oppose any state or federal mandate of benefits on local agency employers, including, but not limited to, benefits for temporary or part-time employees, and veterans' preferences.</p> <p>Oppose legislation limiting the ability of public agencies to monitor public employees' use of public assets and resources.</p> <p>Oppose further limitation on a public sector employer's ability to conduct job related pre-employment inquiries and background checks in order to prevent physical, financial, economic and personal identity threats to employees and the general public.</p>
WORKERS' COMPENSATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Injuries</i> • <i>Medical Expenses</i> • <i>Presumptive Injury</i> • <i>Legal Process</i> 	FINANCE	<p>Support the principles that describe an industrial injury or illness using a narrow view on causation and definition of injury.</p> <p>Support requiring the employee to prove by clear and convincing evidence that sudden or extraordinary employment conditions were the predominant causes for the injury.</p> <p>Support existing workers' compensation laws to be liberally construed only after an injury is deemed "specific" and consists of serious physical or bodily harm.</p> <p>Support the cost containment of medical expenses for workers' compensation claims.</p> <p>Oppose regulations or legislation that would require increased employer medical costs for workers' compensation.</p> <p>Oppose regulations or legislation that would expand the definition of a "presumptive" injury, or create new "presumptive" injury categories that lack a basis in current proven medical science.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that would permit an employee to use more than one legal process in regard to disability claims (i.e., ADA, workers' compensation, DFEH), or any other erosion of the "exclusive remedy" principle as it relates to disability claims covered under workers' compensation.</p>
GENERAL INSURANCE	FINANCE	<p>Oppose regulations or legislation that would increase employer costs for mandated insurance coverage (i.e. general liability, automobile liability, etc.), including expanding employer coverage for personal property owned by an employee or volunteer.</p> <p>Oppose regulations or legislation that would require a city to repair a sidewalk when the sidewalk damage is caused by privately owned plants or trees and hold a city liable for any injury resulting from the failure to repair the sidewalk.</p>

PUBLIC SAFETY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: federal and state legislation and issues related to law enforcement, fire and life safety policies, emergency communications and services, and disaster preparedness.
LAW ENFORCEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Penalties</i> • <i>Violent Offenders</i> • <i>Cost Reimbursement</i> • <i>Booking Fees</i> • <i>Parking Citations</i> • <i>Data Collection</i> • <i>Predators</i> • <i>Racial Profiling</i> • <i>Deportable Criminals</i> 	POLICE	<p>Support the promotion of public safety through stiffer penalties for violent offenders, and protection and supplementation of additional funding for local agencies to recoup the costs of crime and increase community safety.</p> <p>Oppose booking fees and seek their repeal, while encouraging localities to pursue resolution of the issues with their respective counties.</p> <p>Support data collection on hate crimes based on race, national origin, religion, gender, or sexual orientation and improved federal-local communication and coordination on hate crimes.</p> <p>Support legislation that builds trust between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve, including the immigrant community, to ensure that individuals can safely report crimes and fully cooperate with local police and Sheriff departments.</p> <p>Support federal action to identify predatory lending practices and increase federal enforcement action against lenders who target vulnerable populations, including, but not limited to, elderly, low-income families, and racial minorities.</p> <p>Support federal anti-racial profiling legislation that provides financial support to state and local law enforcement agencies for training.</p> <p>Support reimbursement by the federal government to local agencies, specifically cities, for the costs associated with incarcerating deportable criminals.</p> <p>Support increased penalties for metal theft, and recognize that statewide regulation is needed to discourage "jurisdiction shopping."</p>
NUISANCE CONTROL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Adult Entertainment</i> • <i>Alcohol</i> • <i>Medical Marijuana Dispensaries</i> • <i>Drugs</i> • <i>Public Space Behavior</i> 	POLICE	<p>Support enhanced local control over public nuisances including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult entertainment facilities; • Problem alcohol establishments; • Improperly licensed massage therapy businesses; • Problem medical marijuana dispensaries; and • Properties where illegal drugs are sold. <p>Oppose legislation that diminishes or removes the ability of the local authority to establish regulations regarding reasonable use of public space and appropriate behavior in public spaces.</p>
SMOKING AND TOBACCO CONTROL	POLICE	<p>Support legislation that limits the ability of minors to obtain tobacco products.</p> <p>Support legislation that reduces the impacts of environmental tobacco smoke.</p> <p>Support legislation that would provide additional funding to reduce tobacco consumption and improve cancer and smoking-related research.</p>
VIOLENT CRIMES	POLICE	<p>Support the reduction of violence through strategies that address domestic violence, access to tools of violence, including but not limited to firearms, knives, etc.</p>
GRAFFITI	POLICE	<p>Support increased authority and resources devoted to cities for abatement of graffiti and other acts of public vandalism.</p>
GANG VIOLENCE	POLICE	<p>Support programs and funding for cities to prevent gang violence and enhance prevention, intervention and enforcement efforts.</p>

PUBLIC SAFETY		Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: federal and state legislation and issues related to law enforcement, fire and life safety policies, emergency communications and services, and disaster preparedness.
DISASTER RESPONSE	FIRE		<p>Support funding for improved public notification mechanisms during natural disasters and other emergencies, including continuous radio reporting.</p> <p>Support additional funding for local agencies to recoup the costs associated with fire safety in the community and timely mutual aid reimbursement for disaster response services in other jurisdictions.</p>
FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mission</i> • <i>Local Control</i> • <i>Transport</i> • <i>Staffing</i> • <i>Wildland Fuel Management</i> 	FIRE		<p>Support the fire service mission of saving lives and protecting property through fire prevention, disaster preparedness, hazardous-materials mitigation, specialized rescue, etc., as well as cities authority and discretion to provide all emergency services in their communities.</p> <p>Support local control of emergency medical services and authorize cities and fire districts to prescribe and monitor the manner and scope of pre-hospital emergency medical services, including ambulance transport services, provided within local boundaries to improve pre-hospital emergency medical service.</p> <p>Oppose legislation, regulations and standards that impose minimum staffing and response time standards for city fire and emergency medical services since such determinations should reflect the conditions and priorities of individual cities.</p> <p>Support activities and funding which foster cooperation, coordination, and communication in the development of wildland fuel management programs to decrease impacts to public health and safety resulting from wildland urban interface fires.</p>
EMERGENCY SERVICES AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS	POLICE/FIRE		<p>Support activities to develop and implement statewide integrated public safety communication systems that facilitate interoperability and other shared uses of public safety spectrum with local, state and federal law enforcement, fire emergency medical and other public safety agencies.</p> <p>Support efforts to improve 911 services including, but not limited to, directing 911 emergency calls from mobile telephones to the nearest Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).</p> <p>Support representation of cities and counties on decisions affecting 911 systems and effective emergency response.</p>
INSURANCE	POLICE/FIRE		<p>Support the statewide administrative program that requires a motorist to have proof of insurance to register a vehicle with the Department of Motor Vehicles.</p> <p>Support uninsured vehicles being subject to impoundment, and redeemed only with proof of insurance, with unredeemed vehicles being sold to pay for the cost of the program.</p> <p>Support state legislation providing Fair Access to Insurance Requirements (FAIR) Plan for last resort earthquake and fire coverage in high-risk areas.</p>
FEDERAL HOMELAND SECURITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Communication</i> • <i>Standards</i> • <i>Broadband Network</i> 	POLICE/FIRE		<p>Support direct communication between federal agencies and local authorities on critical homeland issues.</p> <p>Support federal standards, guidelines, and funding to ensure reliable, consistent, timely, and redundant preparedness on the front lines.</p>

PUBLIC SAFETY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: federal and state legislation and issues related to law enforcement, fire and life safety policies, emergency communications and services, and disaster preparedness.
FEDERAL RESOURCES	POLICE/FIRE	<p>Support federal funding for public safety, including the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, Homeland Security Block Grant, the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, Assistance for Firefighters Grant, Staffing for Firefighters and Emergency Response Grant, Fire Prevention and Safety Grants as well as other public safety funding sources.</p> <p>Support provision for a permanent dual-use fire station between the City of Santa Barbara and the U.S. Forest Service.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to air and water quality, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, energy, water conservation, and utilities.
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Market development</i> • <i>Electronic waste</i> • <i>Curbside recycling</i> • <i>Multi-Unit Housing Recycling</i> • <i>Land Use</i> • <i>Landfill</i> 	FINANCE/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support legislation and other efforts to increase the markets for recycled materials, including advance disposal fees, minimum content laws, and recycling market development zones.</p> <p>Support legislation to strengthen manufacturer responsibility for electronic waste recycling.</p> <p>Support efforts to strengthen curbside recycling programs.</p> <p>Support legislation to expand the container types included in the California Redemption Value Program.</p> <p>Support legislation that promotes reduced packaging and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR).</p> <p>Support legislation that requires owners of multi-unit housing to provide recycling to tenants.</p> <p>Support legislation to limit landfill disposal of organic materials.</p> <p>Support legislation to develop a permit process for solid waste anaerobic digestion and/or conversion technologies that are capable of minimizing the amount of solid waste landfill, and do not impede or impair existing and planned recycling and waste reduction programs.</p> <p>Support legislation to encourage the development of non-burn transformation technologies by providing full diversion credit for the waste that jurisdictions send to non-burn transformation facilities.</p> <p>Support legislation and other efforts that facilitate collection and proper disposal of waste pharmaceuticals.</p> <p>Support the right of cities under existing law to be designated as Local Enforcement Agencies for solid waste facility permitting, inspection, and enforcement.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that would preempt local land use authority over solid waste facilities, restrict the ability of a city to issue a land use permit for a solid waste facility, or restrict the ability of a city to apply conditions to such facilities through the conditional use permit process.</p> <p>Support legislation to provide changes to AB 939 (the California Integrated Waste Management Act) that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place more emphasis on implementation of waste diversion programs and less strict mathematical accounting; and • Require Cal Recycle to evaluate the level of accuracy of the existing system the board uses to measure jurisdictions' achievement of the waste diversion requirements of state law and develop appropriate policies, in consultation with local jurisdictions, to account for any inaccuracies in the system.
SINGLE-USE CARRYOUT BAGS	FINANCE/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support legislation and other efforts to promote the use of multi-use bags by consumers and to reduce the prevalence of single-use bags in the environment.</p>
UTILITIES/ENERGY	PUBLIC WORKS/ FINANCE	<p>Oppose any legislation that interferes with local utility rate setting authority.</p> <p>Support efforts and legislation which improves distribution system reliability of the electrical supply.</p> <p>Support efforts and legislation which improves and upgrades transmission and generation systems providing greater electrical supply reliability, including removing barriers to local siting of generation.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to air and water quality, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, energy, water conservation, and utilities.
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Streamlining</i> • <i>Administrating Agencies</i> • <i>Building Permits</i> • <i>Land Use</i> • <i>Biodiesel</i> 	PUBLIC WORKS/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ FIRE	<p>Support efforts to streamline and coordinate hazardous materials regulation among various levels of government, including city fire departments and county environmental health departments.</p> <p>Support city fire departments as the administrating agencies for hazardous materials regulations or to be the lead agency (the Certified Unified Program Agency) to approve the use and storage of hazardous materials above certain threshold limits and to manage inventory information used by emergency first responders.</p> <p>Oppose legislation or regulations to restrict such authority.</p> <p>Oppose efforts to restrict the ability of cities to issue building or other permits relative to hazardous materials, as long as such facilities comply with the local zoning ordinance and established health and safety regulations.</p> <p>Oppose any proposals that would preempt the ability of a city to deny a land use permit or restrict its ability to issue a conditional use permit for the siting of a hazardous waste facility.</p> <p>Support regulation that allows biodiesel storage in existing Underwriters Laboratory (UL) rated in ground tanks that have secondary containment and working leak detection systems, at the discretion of the local jurisdiction.</p>
REVITALIZATION OF BROWNFIELDS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Control</i> • <i>Additional Funding</i> • <i>Mitigation</i> • <i>Remediation</i> • <i>Restrictions</i> • <i>State Involvement</i> • <i>Owner Responsibility</i> 	PUBLIC WORKS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support cities' determination that brownfield remediation projects are consistent with local land use policy.</p> <p>Support additional fiscal resources and options to restore and develop urban and industrial brownfields contaminated by hazardous materials.</p> <p>Support establishing site-specific remediation levels based on the proposed use (i.e. parking garage, as opposed to residential development).</p> <p>Support restrictive covenants or deed restrictions to ensure that the level of remediation is appropriate for the future land use.</p> <p>Support continued state responsibility for technical evaluation of site assessments and remediation plans.</p> <p>Support continued site owner responsibility for necessary site assessments and remediation.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to air and water quality, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, energy, water conservation, and utilities.
WATER RESOURCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Infrastructure Investment</i> • <i>Comprehensive Solutions</i> • <i>Supply</i> • <i>Storage</i> • <i>Infrastructure Investment</i> • <i>Recycling</i> • <i>Reclaimed Water</i> • <i>Reuse</i> • <i>Treatment</i> • <i>Conservation</i> • <i>Gray Water</i> • <i>Water Softeners</i> <i>Financial Commitment</i> 	PUBLIC WORKS/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support comprehensive solutions for water quality, water conservation and water use efficiency as part of a solution that includes local resource development and infrastructure improvements, including storage and conveyance, as part of a statewide system that promotes economic and environmental sustainability.</p> <p>Support state and federal funding for water resources infrastructure,</p> <p>Support the development of additional groundwater and surface water storage,</p> <p>Support appropriate funding sources for providing adequate water supply including, but are not limited to user fees, bonds and federal funding.</p> <p>Support funding for the development of plans for short-term water emergencies and long-term cooperative water management plans and policies.</p> <p>Support legislation to protect public agencies that provide wastewater treatment services, from liability for pollution or contamination to groundwater resulting from chemicals that are unlawfully discharged into the collection system.</p> <p>Support efforts to improve the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Clean Water Act and implementation plans to protect public health and the environment in an efficient and effective manner.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that requires the use of unreasonable numeric limits in waste discharge permits.</p> <p>Support the rights of cities to enact ordinances that restrict the use of water softeners to minimize impacts to wastewater treatment operations.</p> <p>Support legislation that encourages the cost-effective treatment of municipal wastewater, authorizes funding for projects improving, enhancing, or expanding the use of recycled water, and maximizes the responsible use of recycled water as an alternative to California's fresh water supply.</p> <p>Support legislation that updates gray water standards, encourages simple and cost effective permitting process of gray water systems, and removes barriers to installing gray water systems in public, commercial, industrial, multi-family, and single-family projects.</p> <p>Support the review and evaluation of proposals for state water taxes.</p> <p>Support legislation to streamline water transfers among jurisdictions.</p> <p>Support legislation providing agencies the ability to provide rate subsidies for low-income rate payers.</p> <p>Support the use of inclined block rate structures to encourage water conservation.</p> <p>Support desalination as a drought water supply.</p> <p>Support efforts that expedite regulations expanding the uses of wastewater for direct and indirect potable reuse.</p> <p>Support efforts that promote more flexibility to adjust water rates to achieve water use reductions during a water shortage emergency.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to air and water quality, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, energy, water conservation, and utilities.
WATER QUALITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Infrastructure Investment</i> • <i>Standards</i> • <i>Liability</i> • <i>Federal Safe/ Clean Water</i> • <i>Watershed Management</i> • <i>Numeric Limits</i> • <i>Water Quality Control Boards</i> • <i>Fees/Penalty Revenues</i> 	PUBLIC WORKS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support state and federal funding and efforts for improved water infrastructure, water quality, beach and coastal resource protection and enhancement, wetland protection and enhancement, and urban creek restoration, especially for cities with a history of effective management of water and wastewater infrastructure.</p> <p>Support as appropriate, state and federal legislative and administrative remedies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit citizen lawsuits for minor technical violations of the Clean Water Act but continue to allow injunctive relief for documented violations resulting in substantial documented adverse impacts to water quality; • Ensure that the funds collected from a city as fees, penalties, or judgments are directed toward correcting violations; • Return limited discretion to state and regional water quality control boards in setting penalties to allow fairness based on severity and circumstances of the violation; and • Encourage the state and regional water quality control boards to use their existing discretionary authority, consistent with the requirements of the Clean Water Act, to issue permits that are reasonably achievable. <p>Oppose legislation that requires the use of unreasonable numeric limits in storm water permits.</p> <p>Oppose legislation to enact rewards for individuals who identify water quality or water pollution violators.</p> <p>Support efforts to set well-defined water quality goals.</p> <p>Support regulations and legislation that promote watershed management as a tool to improve water quality.</p> <p>Support regulations and legislation to prevent surface water contamination from neonicotinoid and other systemic pesticides.</p>
AIR QUALITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Improvements</i> • <i>Regulations</i> • <i>Land Use</i> • <i>Fund Diversion</i> • <i>Programs/ Standards</i> • <i>Health and Safety Code</i> 	PUBLIC WORKS/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support regulatory changes and infrastructure improvements that will reduce air pollution.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that will reduce air quality standards or restrict city permitting and land use planning authority to minimize negative air quality impacts.</p> <p>Oppose state regulatory changes that mandate restrictions on residential development setbacks from high vehicle traffic without local input</p> <p>Oppose legislation redirecting funds authorized by Health and Safety Code Section 44223, for locally based air quality programs.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to air and water quality, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, energy, water conservation, and utilities.
CLIMATE PROTECTION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Incentives</i> • <i>Fuel Efficiency</i> • <i>Renewable Energy</i> • <i>Adaptation Measures</i> • <i>Green Infrastructure</i> 	PUBLIC WORKS/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support grants, loans, tax credits, and other incentives to assist local governments, businesses, and the public to invest in energy efficient equipment and renewable energy technology.</p> <p>Support grants and other financial incentives for local governments to implement state mandates, including completing and updating an inventory of local government facility greenhouse gas emissions, conducting and updating an inventory of their whole jurisdiction, setting emission reduction targets and monitoring progress, and creating emission reduction action plans.</p> <p>Support grants and other financial incentives for local governments to assess climate change vulnerability due to sea level rise, coastal erosion and inundation, flood and wildfire hazards, and develop and implement adaptive management measures to protect resources such as critical infrastructure, vulnerable populations/public health, biological resources, recreation, public access, water supply, water quality, and the local economy.,</p> <p>Support grants and other funding sources for regional sustainability plans and multi-jurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments.</p> <p>Support grants, loans, tax credits, and other incentives to assist the public and local governments in using alternative fuels and purchasing fuel-efficient and/or flex-fueled vehicles.</p> <p>Support legislation that increases energy efficiency requirements as part of the building codes as long as they are healthful.</p> <p>Support legislation to permit assignment of the Public Goods Charge to local governments for implementation of energy conservation programs and projects.</p> <p>Support legislation and measures that encourage renewable energy generation, facilitate renewable resource development, and provide incentives for small renewable generation projects.</p> <p>Oppose legislation and measures that make renewable energy generation less cost effective or more difficult to implement.</p> <p>Support legislation or regulations allowing wheeling of power and/or appropriate remuneration for energy provided to the grid by municipalities.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to air and water quality, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, energy, water conservation, and utilities.
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Procedures and Notices</i> • <i>Definition of a Project</i> • <i>Significant Environmental Effects</i> • <i>Alternatives</i> • <i>Miscellaneous</i> 	PUBLIC WORKS/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION	PROCEDURES AND NOTICES <p>Oppose the elimination of the fair argument test as the threshold for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).</p> <p>Support the development of a funding source for Master EIRs to streamline individual project CEQA review.</p> <p>Support shielding Lead Agencies from responding to comments received more than 30 days after a Notice of Preparation (NOP) or received verbally.</p> <p>Support limiting Lead Agency response to late comments received following issuance of the Final EIR and prior to certification.</p> <p>Support eliminating the mandated timeline for entering into CEQA consultant contracts.</p> <p>Support mediation and arbitration in CEQA disputes but not mandatory arbitration.</p> <p>Support clarifying the threshold for re-circulation of EIRs so that only new “significant unavoidable impacts” would necessitate re-circulation.</p> <p>Support allowing a tiered Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) subsequent to an EIR with significant impacts and overriding considerations when the subsequent project qualifies for an MND.</p> <p>DEFINITION OF A PROJECT</p> <p>Support narrowing the definition of “project” to discourage CEQA lawsuits on non- environmental matters.</p> <p>Support streamlining to establish new exemptions for projects such as road maintenance, bike paths, temporary events, and in-fill projects.</p> <p>Support legislation that would allow local standards of review for certain solar projects.</p> <p>Oppose regulations limiting local authority to issue building permits, or other requirements, based on vehicle miles traveled.</p> <p>SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS</p> <p>Oppose the creation of a new mandate requiring cities to develop boilerplate significance thresholds.</p> <p>Oppose a single statewide set of standards to determine significance at the local level.</p> <p>Support focusing CEQA analysis on physical environmental effects.</p> <p>Oppose amending the definition of “effects” to eliminate the analysis of indirect and cumulative environmental effects.</p> <p>Support amending the guidelines to clarify requirements for analysis of cumulative and indirect environmental effects.</p> <p>Support development of a clear methodology for preparing CEQA analysis of potential global warming impacts of proposed projects.</p> <p>Oppose exempting projects that are subject to their own subsequent environmental review from consideration as a reasonably foreseeable future project when analyzing cumulative impacts.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to air and water quality, CEQA, integrated waste management, hazardous materials, coastal issues, energy, water conservation, and utilities.
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) CONTINUED	PUBLIC WORKS/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION	ALTERNATIVES Support eliminating the alternative site requirement for all private projects. Oppose the elimination of the “no project alternative.” MISCELLANEOUS Support the right of cities to serve as Lead Agencies for the purposes of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA). Oppose any federal or state regulation, statute or constitutional amendment, which would place restrictions on federal, state, and local government actions regulating private property or requiring additional compensation beyond the continually evolving judicial interpretation of the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Support the ability of local governments to voluntarily develop and approve species habitat plans for their communities, in conjunction with willing property owners. Support legislation that would consolidate and streamline environmental review studies and processes, and encourage other forms of inter-agency cooperation, for proposed development projects that require permits from multiple jurisdictions (local, state, and federal).
COASTAL ISSUES	PUBLIC WORKS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/PARKS AND RECREATION/WATER- FRONT	Oppose legislation that would permit the state to impose conditions on Local Coastal Plans developed by cities and counties Support efforts to curb frivolous appeals to local coastal decisions. Support prohibition of additional oil offshore development based, in part, on concern about the impacts to on-shore support facilities and services by offshore development activities. Oppose legislation that grants authority to the Coastal Commission that is inconsistent, duplicative and overlapping with the authority of other regulatory agencies, such as regional water quality control boards or other agencies or that grant the Coastal Commission authority outside the coastal zone. Support legislation that reduces Coastal Permitting requirements for solar systems serving existing development. Support additional funding for Coastal Commission efforts to update Local Coastal Programs.

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: policies that foster local control of community planning decisions as they relate to land use, affordable housing, cultural arts, human and neighborhood services, redevelopment and the community's economic health.
TOURISM	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/MAYOR AND COUNCIL	Support federal and state efforts to foster tourism policy development and coordination, and raise awareness of the economic impact of travel and tourism.	
ARTS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, CULTURAL RESOURCES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/MAYOR AND COUNCIL	Support funding for historic preservation, cultural resources, local arts activities, and arts agencies at levels to sustain the nation's cultural infrastructure, including support for the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Office of Museum Services within the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Support funding for Arts in Education in the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for Improvement of Education to encourage high quality arts instruction in schools.	
JOB CREATION	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/MAYOR AND COUNCIL	Support legislation that will provide tangible and productive tools and incentives to support job creation and retention.	
HOMELESSNESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Funding</i> • <i>Food Distribution</i> • <i>Alcohol Impact Areas</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ POLICE	Support legislation and state and federal programs that assist in providing funding for homeless services, including day centers, emergency shelters, transitional housing or permanent supportive housing. Support legislation to reinstate the previous definition language for satellite food distribution that exempted non-profit organizations serving prepackaged servings of food from having to meet extensive structural and operational requirements, usually at remote sites, to obtain a permit. Support legislation to allow cities and counties to designate "Alcohol Impacted Areas" and impose strict local review and controls on the issuance of new Alcohol and Beverage Control (ABC) permits within such areas.	
PLANNING AND ZONING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>General Plans</i> • <i>Water Supply/ Land Use</i> • <i>Zoning</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Support the use of the general plan as a guide to meeting community planning needs. A city's general plan should not be subject to mandatory review by regional or state agencies. Support protection of local zoning as a primary function of cities and an essential component of home rule. State agency siting of facilities, including campuses and office buildings, should be subject to local notice and hearing requirements, and local land use policy and zoning requirements to meet concerns of the local community. Oppose legislation that would allow local jurisdictions to prohibit large family day care on single family zoned property.	
DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Support voluntary development agreements as one tool for providing flexibility in development approvals.	

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: policies that foster local control of community planning decisions as they relate to land use, affordable housing, cultural arts, human and neighborhood services, redevelopment and the community's economic health.
DEVELOPMENT FEES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local authority</i> • <i>Infrastructure</i> • <i>Mitigation</i> • <i>Condition and</i> • <i>Deny Authority</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support providing local discretion in the assessment, collection, and usage of development fees. Support the state provision of infrastructure funding to help local communities meet California's growth demands and to increase housing affordability.</p> <p>Oppose limiting the ability of cities to levy fees to provide for infrastructure or services.</p> <p>Support maintaining the City's ability to condition and deny projects which have been determined to inadequately mitigate impacts to community schools.</p>	
STATE SUBVENTIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND CONTRACTS	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support the continuation of State subvention payments to local governments to offset lower property tax rates for agricultural and open space lands in Williamson Act contracts, which provide region-wide protection against conversion of these lands to urban uses and potential associated effects such as loss of prime agricultural soils, loss of agricultural viability, loss of plentiful food supply, loss of habitats, and increased traffic, etc.</p>	
ANNEXATION AND INCORPORATION	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support strengthening city control over urban boundaries and modifying Sphere of Influence law to limit urban development in unincorporated areas of a county and to facilitate the annexation of urban areas to cities.</p> <p>Support revising the Revenue and Taxation Code to not allow counties to block annexations in exchange for unreasonable property tax sharing agreements.</p> <p>Support expanded authority for cities over adjacent lands outside their sphere of influence regardless of jurisdictional lines so long as the land is not within another city's sphere.</p> <p>Support allowing more flexibility for cities to provide out of agency services.</p>	
SUBDIVISION MAP ACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Control</i> • <i>Antiquated subdivisions</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support maximizing local control over subdivisions and public improvement financing and maintaining discretion over the conditions and length of subdivision and parcel maps should be retained by cities.</p> <p>Support reversal of legislation recognizing antiquated subdivisions as legal lots.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that automatically grants additional time extensions of subdivision approvals beyond those in AB 116.</p>	
BUILDING STANDARDS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health and Safety</i> • <i>Occupancy</i> • <i>Licensing</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support flexibility in the adoption and implementation of health and safety standards contained in the building codes.</p> <p>Support authorizing cities to adopt independent occupancy standards to prevent overcrowding and associated health and safety hazards, including fire-related fatalities.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that would remove licensing requirements for professionals such as architects, landscape architects, contractors, and others related to building and development.</p>	
SIGN REGULATION	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support the authority of cities to regulate billboards, mobile signs, and other signage.</p>	
REDEVELOPMENT SUCCESSOR AGENCY	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support new legislation to clean up and clarify AB 1X 26 that dissolved redevelopment agencies.</p> <p>Support legislation that enhances or expands community tools to address revitalization and redevelopment needs, including blight, economic development, and affordable housing.</p>	

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: policies that foster local control of community planning decisions as they relate to land use, affordable housing, cultural arts, human and neighborhood services, redevelopment and the community's economic health.
RENT CONTROL/ MOBILE HOME REGULATION	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support initiatives that maintain cities as the enforcement authority for mobile home park regulation, including rent control.</p> <p>Support the preservation of existing mobile home parks as an important source of affordable housing.</p> <p>Support legislation that would retain the affordability requirement of mobile homes upon annexation.</p>
REPURPOSE UNDERUTILIZED STATE AND FEDERAL FACILITIES	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support acquisition of closed and underutilized state and federal facilities for community use to meet local community needs as determined by local governments, including but not limited to the Army Reserve Center and the National Guard Armory for community parks and recreation purposes.</p>
HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Housing Element</i> • <i>Accountability</i> • <i>Performance Standard</i> • <i>Incentives</i> • <i>Streamlining</i> • <i>Reforms</i> • <i>Growth</i> • <i>RHNA Units</i> • <i>Disputes</i> • <i>Consistency</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support the following housing principles: Local government efforts should be subject to realistic performance standards not to arbitrary state agency review of the housing element. Local government housing efforts should be rewarded by incentives. These incentives should include streamlining by not being subject to HCD review, priority ranking for discretionary funds, and new discretionary funds available for general fund purposes.</p> <p>Support legislation that implements comprehensive reforms to the housing element process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address conflicts between local growth projections and state regional housing need numbers; • Allow cities to work together to allocate housing units among themselves within a sub-region; • Resolve problems associated with the distribution of RHNA units within a council of governments; • Improve the housing element review process; • Develop a neutral dispute resolution process and fair enforcement alternatives to deal with disputes over questions of compliance; and • Revise the formal appeal process so appeals can be heard by politically accountable officials at the state and regional levels. <p>Support legislation that requires state laws and policies related to housing and land use to be internally consistent.</p> <p>Support legislation that provides incentives for the development of rental housing.</p> <p>Support legislation that expands housing opportunities for disabled individuals.</p> <p>Support the re-establishment of federal tax incentives which encouraged private development and ownership of rental housing.</p> <p>Support legislation that promotes responsible lending practices to encourage private home ownership and minimize the incidence of foreclosures and short sales.</p>

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: policies that foster local control of community planning decisions as they relate to land use, affordable housing, cultural arts, human and neighborhood services, redevelopment and the community's economic health.
RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Permitting</i> • <i>Licensing</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Support permitting cities to exercise review and land use regulation of group home facilities and residential care facilities in residential neighborhoods including the application of zoning, building, and safety standards. State and county licensing agencies should be required to confer with a city's planning agency in determining whether to grant a license to a community care facility.
AFFORDABLE HOUSING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Financing</i> • <i>CDBG/HOME</i> • <i>Federal Funding</i> • <i>Legal Protections</i> • <i>Elderly Housing</i> • <i>Non-Profits</i> • <i>Fair Market Rents</i> 	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Support state and federal legislation and programs that provide financing for affordable housing, including the development of fiscal tools and incentives to assist local governments in their efforts to encourage housing and finance the infrastructure to support housing, as well as ongoing state commitment to funding affordable housing. Support legislation that establishes a permanent source of funding for affordable housing. Support legislation that looks at the next generation of community revitalization tools including affordable housing development and preservation in light of the dissolution of redevelopment agencies. Support federal funding for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) for community development, affordable housing, neighborhood improvement, and economic development needs. Support federal funding for the HOME Investment Program that creates and preserves affordable housing for low and moderate-income families and individuals. Support the preservation of the HUD Section 8 Program funding. Support at the federal level, the calculation of Section 8 "fair market rents" and "area median income" on a sub-regional basis, rather than on a countywide basis. Support federal funding of: 1) New construction and rental assistance, modernization of units of elderly housing, also known as HUD Section 202; 2) Efforts to preserve elderly housing and permit nonprofit organizations to purchase elderly housing projects with expiring Section 8 contracts; and 3) Housing for persons with disabilities, also known as Section 811; 4) Homeless assistance grants, also known as McKinney HEARTH Act. Oppose any legislation to reduce financing for the Section 8 Program, including block grants. Support legislation that provides new incremental units of Section 8 voucher assistance nationwide, particularly in higher cost areas, and adequate voucher renewal funding. Support and encourage legislation that establishes additional legal protections to local agencies that approve affordable housing and that establish local pro-active affordable housing policies.

TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Staff Liaison
Departments

Scope: review state and federal legislation relating to transportation funding, construction, public works, telecommunications, and related areas.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Funding**
- **Alternative Transportation**
- **Unmet Infrastructure**
- **Gas Tax**
- **Bicycle/Pedestrians**
- **Commuter Rail/On-TRAC**
- **Measure A**

PUBLIC WORKS/
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

- Support** additional funding for local public transportation, other transportation alternatives to single occupancy vehicles, and other critical unmet infrastructure needs.
- Support** the continued adoption and implementation of a regional long-term capital investment plan and budget to upgrade and repair vital infrastructure.
- Support** appropriations of existing and new state and federal funds directly to cities and counties for the preservation, maintenance, rehabilitation, and improvement of the local street and transportation system.
- Support** maximizing investments in infrastructure and reinforce local land use practices to accomplish strategic local growth objectives.
- Support** local transportation decision-making and pursue transportation policy changes that move funding and decision-making to the local level to fund urban infrastructure needs.
- Support** funding opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian projects.
- Support** legislation and policies that promote the goals, objectives, and continuation of Measure A programs.
- Support** legislation and policies that promote the goals and objectives of the On-TRAC commuter rail program.
- Support** federal funding of Highway 101 improvements as a top regional priority, and federal funding for local priority projects and other funding categories.
- Support** legislation that maintains or increases local funding for transportation projects, including State gas tax, Highways Users' Tax (HUTA) Proposition 42 and 1B funds.
- Support** legislation that prevents "borrowing" or taking of local transportation funds by the State of California.
- Support** legislation that promotes funding of alternative fuel parking spaces and allows the city the right to designate alternative fuel parking spaces for new developments.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- **Infrastructure**
- **Right-of-Way**

PUBLIC WORKS

- Support** the authority of cities to zone and plan for the deployment of telecommunications infrastructure.
- Support** the ability of cities to maintain and manage the public right-of-way and receive compensation for its use.

TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Staff Liaison
Departments

Scope: review state and federal legislation relating to transportation funding, construction, public works, telecommunications, and related areas.

VEHICLES

- *Road Damage*
- *Local Control*
- *Safety*

PUBLIC
WORKS/COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

Oppose increasing or circumventing the weight limits of large vehicles allowed on city streets to prevent street and roadway infrastructure damage and associated street maintenance costs.

Support retention of maximum City control of the local street and road system.

Support traffic safety enhancements such as motorcycle helmets, child restraints, seatbelt, and speed limit laws.

Support local discretion to set lower speed limits.

Support legislation that promotes vehicle speed limits that are designated and enforced with consideration of street design, neighborhood characteristics, adjacent land use, and mix of transportation mode usage.

Support legislation to facilitate buses in turn-out pockets merging back into traffic and requiring motorists to yield to merging buses.

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

- *Flexibility*
- *Partnerships*
- *Innovations*
- *Lower Mission Creek*

PUBLIC WORKS

Support maintaining retention proceeds for any public works contract to assure that the primary contractor completes all required work and permits the City's final acceptance of the project.

Support retaining maximum flexibility for timely and cost-effective completion of public works projects.

Support innovative strategies including public-private partnerships at the state and local levels to enhance public works funding.

Support the option to use design-build contracting and other innovations designed to enhance efficiency with public contracting.

Support continued funding for the Lower Mission Creek project in annual federal appropriations and authorized by the Water Resource Development Act.

AIRPORT	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to federal and state legislation affecting airport operations funding regulation, and implementation of the airport master plan.
FUNDING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Airport Improvement Program (AIP)</i> • <i>Passenger Facility Charges (PFC)</i> • <i>Security</i> • <i>Bankruptcy</i> • <i>Bonds</i> • <i>Alternative Minimum Tax</i> • <i>Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)</i> 	AIRPORT	<p>Support legislation reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), including support of the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase AIP funding and maintain or reduce the 5% AIP match requirement for small airports; • Strengthen or maintain budget protections for AIP funding; • Eliminate the competition plan requirement for AIP; • Eliminate unnecessary AIP grant assurances; and • Maintain or expand revenue sources that contribute to AIP. <p>Support federal legislative efforts to maintain or increase appropriations to the AIP for infrastructure projects relating to safety, security, aviation operations and capacity, and noise abatement.</p> <p>Support dedicated aviation security operations and infrastructure funding sources separate from the AIP.</p> <p>Support efforts to reimburse airports for operational and infrastructure costs associated with implementation of federal security and other mandates.</p> <p>Support reform legislation that helps protect airports from the impact of airline bankruptcies.</p> <p>Support reclassification of all airport bonds as 'governmental' instead of 'private activity.'</p> <p>Support continuation of the elimination of the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) penalty on Airport Private Activity Bonds.</p> <p>Support efforts to provide airports with greater flexibility in the use of AIP and Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) funds, including elimination of the mandated loss of entitlement funds from imposing a higher PFC.</p> <p>Support an increase or elimination of the cap on PFC charges.</p> <p>Support efforts to streamline the airport PFC application and reporting process.</p> <p>Support efforts to eliminate and/or restructure the federal Airport Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program.</p> <p>Support funding for modernization of the FAA air traffic control equipment to improve the safety and efficiency of the national air transportation system.</p>
SAFETY AND SECURITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Streamlining</i> • <i>Cargo Screening</i> • <i>Staffing</i> • <i>Ground Transportation</i> 	AIRPORT	<p>Support streamlining the airport security screening process to reduce passenger inconvenience and improve customer service, while maintaining security and safety.</p> <p>Support a threat based (risk-based) system of air cargo inspection and screening.</p> <p>Support local primacy in granting access to airport restricted areas.</p> <p>Support efforts to preserve current adequate staffing levels for Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting crews.</p> <p>Support timely, secure and cost effective background screening for Airport employees.</p> <p>Support measures to improve Santa Barbara Airport's ability to regulate and enforce rules established for ground transportation providers.</p>

AIRPORT	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to federal and state legislation affecting airport operations funding regulation, and implementation of the airport master plan.
ENVIRONMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Airport Noise</i> <i>Greenhouse Gases</i> <i>Environmental Review</i> 	AIRPORT/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support measures to alleviate noise impacts on communities surrounding airports that benefit both the community and the airport such as the implementation of a phased Stage 3 requirement for lighter jet aircraft and the phase-out of noisy Stage 1 and Stage 2 jet aircraft weighing less than 75,000 lbs.</p> <p>Support efforts to reduce pollution, including potential greenhouse gas emissions, resulting from aircraft operations and airport ground service equipment.</p> <p>Oppose efforts to expand state airport noise standard variance requirements.</p> <p>Support additional steps to expedite the airport environmental review and approval process while preserving environmental protections.</p>
AIR SERVICE	AIRPORT	<p>Support efforts to stimulate the airline industry's ability to provide air service to Santa Barbara.</p> <p>Support legislation that recognizes or encourages aviation's contributions to the economy that result from air travel, tourism, commerce, freight transport, and manufacturing.</p> <p>Support enhancements to the passenger bill of rights that are consistent with Airport and passenger needs.</p> <p>Support changes that would enhance Santa Barbara Airport's ability to improve air service options for local travelers.</p>
TRANSPORTATION/INFRASTRUCTURE	AIRPORT	<p>Support legislation funding connectivity between air and ground transportation through improved infrastructure and enhancement of alternative transportation options.</p>
PLANNING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Land Use</i> <i>Coordination</i> 	AIRPORT/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support efforts to ensure that development around airports is consistent with land use planning guidelines and compatible with airport operations.</p> <p>Support coordination between FAA and sponsor airports on National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance issues and preparation of joint NEPA/CEQA documents.</p>
RENTAL CAR CONCESSIONS	AIRPORT	<p>Support airport interests in proposed legislation that may negatively affect the terms under which rental car concessions operate at the airport.</p>
EDUCATION	AIRPORT	<p>Support aviation education that informs students about career opportunities in aviation and encourages interest in a math and science curriculum.</p>

WATERFRONT		Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to federal and state legislation affecting harbor operations, funding, and regulation.
PUBLIC ACCESS	WATERFRONT		Support continued public access to marinas, state tidelands, waterfront facilities, and marine resources.
ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS	WATERFRONT		Support legislation that recognizes economic contributions of ports and harbors to state and federal economies, through maritime trade, maritime industries, ecotourism, cruise ships and commercial fishing.
FEDERAL REGULATION	WATERFRONT		Support coordination of Executive Agencies to ensure timely permitting of statutorily mandated Civil Works projects and contain regulatory demands that inflate project costs.
LOCAL CONTROL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Revenues</i> • <i>Use</i> • <i>Preservation</i> • <i>Environment</i> • <i>Sanctuaries</i> • <i>Local Control</i> • <i>Cruise Ships</i> • <i>Air Quality</i> 	WATERFRONT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		Support continuation of the Tidelands Trust Grant and requirements that all revenues generated within the granted lands are used to repair, maintain, and improve facilities and infrastructure within those granted lands. Support legislation allowing ports and harbors to establish or designate local control over special-use areas for vessels or related recreational equipment of a specific type or use. Support the preservation of ocean resources through established marine sanctuaries, while reserving the ability to comment on potential sanctuary expansion that could affect activities including but not limited to dredging, vessel traffic, wastewater disposal, or general construction, maintenance and repair of Waterfront facilities. Support local jurisdictional control and environmental/regulatory oversight of cruise ship visits near ports and harbors. Support state and federal efforts to reduce environmental impacts of shipping, including whale strikes, in the Santa Barbara Channel. Support state and federal efforts to reduce environmental impacts of oil seeps in the Santa Barbara Channel.
FISHERIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fishing</i> • <i>Ecological Health</i> • <i>Planning</i> 	WATERFRONT		Support environmentally compliant commercial and recreational fishing, as essential to the fabric of working ports and harbors. Support legislative efforts to sustain the ecological health of aquatic biological systems, including fish, shellfish, and marine mammals. Support protection of the California Gray Whale and efforts to assess its population, mortality rates and migration rates. Support establishment of regulated fishermen's markets for direct sales of fish and shellfish to the public.

WATERFRONT	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to federal and state legislation affecting harbor operations, funding, and regulation.
ENVIRONMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Authority</i> • <i>Disposition of Crafts</i> • <i>Non-Native Marine Species</i> • <i>Waste</i> • <i>Seabirds</i> • <i>Water Pollution</i> • <i>Fuel Tank</i> • <i>Oil Spills</i> • <i>Recycling</i> • <i>Boat Paint</i> 	WATERFRONT	<p>Support enhanced local authority over disposition of wrecked, derelict, abandoned, non-operable or non-seaworthy craft.</p> <p>Support legislation that encourages and funds eradication or control of non-native marine species in ports and harbors.</p> <p>Support physical alternatives or grant/additional funds for disposal of marina-generated household wastes, or treated building materials.</p> <p>Support efforts to ensure seabird protection while allowing ports and harbors to undertake maintenance operations and control or abate nuisance fowl.</p> <p>Support state or federal funding for retrofits or rehabilitation of underground marine-fuel tanks or systems.</p> <p>Support state or federal funding to mitigate or remediate non-point source and point- source pollution that affects harbor water quality.</p> <p>Support efforts to fund oil-spill prevention and response in ports and harbors.</p> <p>Support efforts to fund recycling and/or disposal options for waste oil and other byproducts of maritime activities or vessel maintenance.</p> <p>Support efforts to research and test alternatives to copper-based anti-fouling paints for boat bottoms.</p>
DREDGING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Funding</i> • <i>Material</i> • <i>Corps of Engineers</i> • <i>Federal Initiatives</i> • <i>Obligation</i> 	WATERFRONT	<p>Support policies and funding for dredging small-craft ports and harbors, including environmentally feasible disposition of dredged materials and/or the use of dredged materials for beach nourishment.</p> <p>Support full execution by the Corps of Engineers of its basic navigation, shore and flood protection mission, as well as environmental restoration and recreation authorized by Congress.</p> <p>Support federal initiatives that benefit marine infrastructure needs including: Maritime Infrastructure Banks, maintenance dredging of Santa Barbara Harbor, expanded ocean dredge disposal sites and development of new upland dredge disposal and reuse sites.</p> <p>Oppose any action that would prohibit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from realizing its obligation to dredge Santa Barbara Harbor.</p>
SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS	WATERFRONT	<p>Support the U.S. Coast Guard's services mission to conduct Homeland Security and search-and-rescue operations as agency priorities.</p>
ENFORCEMENT	WATERFRONT	<p>Support Homeland Security legislation programs and/or grants that benefit and protect small ports and harbors.</p>

WATERFRONT	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to federal and state legislation affecting harbor operations, funding, and regulation.
FACILITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Funding</i> • <i>Abandoned Watercraft</i> • <i>Utilities</i> • <i>Boat Launching</i> • <i>Repair and Maintain Harbor Facilities</i> 	WATERFRONT	<p>Support legislation providing federal or state grant or low-interest loan funds for development of harbor infrastructure facilities.</p> <p>Oppose legislative or administrative efforts to eliminate the state Division of Boating and Waterways and/or reduce or reallocate the State Division of Boating and Waterways budget. If obligations of the Division of Boating and Waterways are absorbed by another department of state government,</p> <p>Oppose efforts to redirect funds historically utilized by the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, as described in the Harbors and Navigation Code.</p> <p>Oppose legislative or administrative efforts to increase funds historically appropriated to the State Parks and Recreation Department, as authorized in Section 85.2 (b) (1) in the Harbors and Navigation Code.</p> <p>Oppose legislative or administrative efforts to reallocate or divert funds from the intended purposes of the State Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund, as described in the California Harbors and Navigation Code.</p> <p>Support legislation expanding and/or increasing the budget of the state's Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund and Vessel Turn In Program.</p> <p>Support legislation providing harbor managers a financially feasible means of supplying and recovering costs of utilities such as electricity to berths and marinas.</p> <p>Support legislation that funds construction and/or maintenance of boat-launching facilities.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that seasonally restricts the ability to repair and maintain harbor facilities, while considering impacts to sensitive species.</p>
BOATING SAFETY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Education</i> • <i>Enforcement</i> 	WATERFRONT	<p>Support boating safety, including education and enforcement or regulation of boating practices, vessel types and equipment.</p> <p>Support legislation implementing a boater-safety certification program.</p> <p>Support boating safety and enforcement efforts through funding of equipment, training and other resources utilized by Harbor Patrol Officers.</p>
EDUCATION	WATERFRONT	<p>Support programs that utilize the California Division of Boating and Waterways as an educational vehicle for boating and harbor management programs.</p>

COMMUNITY SERVICES		Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to childcare, parks and recreation, libraries, cultural arts, community and human services programs.
PARKS FUNDING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Programs</i> • <i>Community Park Land</i> • <i>Partnerships</i> • <i>Coastal Access</i> 	PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support full federal funding for the Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program.</p> <p>Support legislation that promotes the acquisition, development or redevelopment of parkland to meet community park and recreation needs.</p> <p>Support regional multi-agency open space acquisition initiatives.</p> <p>Support the continuation of funding for Coastal Access Projects.</p> <p>Support legislation that retains or enhances public access to and the affordability of public parks and recreation programs.</p>	
STATE NATURAL AREA AND PARK BOND FUNDS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eligibility</i> • <i>Distribution</i> 	PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Oppose tying local eligibility for park bond grant funds to non-park related issues, such as rent control or housing element status.</p> <p>Support inclusion of per capita grants to cities and counties as part of all Statewide park bond measures.</p> <p>Support efforts to assure bond funds are not held for other state funding needs.</p> <p>Support new State bond funding for the acquisition, development or redevelopment of park and recreation facilities to meet community needs.</p>	
NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION	PARKS AND RECREATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	<p>Support legislation that fosters protection and restoration of natural resources, including streams, stream and riparian habitat, wetlands, estuaries, rural and urban open space, etc.</p> <p>Support legislation that provides local agencies with matching grants and/or technical support from the California Natural Resources Agency or other state and federal agencies to revise and implement new resource protection policies, projects and programs.</p>	
PROPOSITION 50/84/1E	PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support legislation that distributes bond funds as competitive monies to a range of State agencies and does not limit funds based on geographic location or scope of need.</p> <p>Support legislation that allows grantees an opportunity to receive grant funds for project design and permitting, in addition to construction, and also provides a mechanism to extend completion schedules.</p>	
PARKS AND RECREATION	PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support legislation that establishes new grants or expands the scope of existing grants (currently limited to urbanized areas with populations over 100,000) for which the City would be eligible for park development, park improvement, and youth recreation programs.</p> <p>Support continuance of current California Health and Safety Code, Section 115800, which protects public entities from liability rising from injuries at a public skateboard park.</p>	
CHILDREN/YOUTH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Job Training</i> • <i>Prenatal Care</i> • <i>Youth Programs</i> • <i>Foster Care</i> • <i>Federal Grants</i> • <i>After School Programs</i> 	PARKS AND RECREATION/ POLICE/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ LIBRARY	<p>Support state and federal funding for school-based job training programs to produce more job placement opportunities in collaboration with municipal services.</p> <p>Support the creation of more affordable, innovative, and quality local child care options for parents and concurrently encourage adherence to strict regulations and guidelines.</p> <p>Support increased state and federal funding for prenatal care, early health care, preschool, and childcare programs to ensure healthy children and school readiness.</p> <p>Support increased funding for foster care.</p> <p>Support creation of permanent state or federal funding sources for youth programs.</p> <p>Support federal reauthorization and full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act</p>	

COMMUNITY SERVICES	Staff Liaison Departments	Scope: issues related to childcare, parks and recreation, libraries, cultural arts, community and human services programs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Equal Access</i> • <i>Parks and Recreation Facilities</i> • <i>Educational Programs</i> • <i>Library Funding</i> • <i>Health Care</i> 		<p>(IDEA), the Child Care and Development Block Grant, and the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant, including after-school recreation and tutoring programs.</p> <p>Support increased state and federal funding for affordable after-school programs and programs that promote and enhance physical fitness and well-being of children and youth.</p> <p>Support legislation that would provide state and federal funding for increased access for children with disabilities to after-school and other recreation programs, including required staff support related to medications, mobility, and activity integration.</p> <p>Support legislation that would provide state and federal funding for the acquisition, development and/or operation of park and recreation facilities that serve underprivileged children, families, and older adults and which promote and enhance physical health and well-being of children, youth, adults and seniors.</p> <p>Support legislation providing state and federal funding for improving pre-school reading readiness, for supporting public library services assisting elementary and secondary school students with information, research, and curriculum materials, for adult literacy and computer literacy instruction, and for acquisition of learning materials.</p> <p>Oppose legislation or administrative efforts to decrease the state's budgets for First 5 and K through 12 programs that support children and families.</p> <p>Support the concept of universal health care for all Californians.</p> <p>Support incentives to improve coordination of public health considerations with community land use planning.</p> <p>Support promotion of programs, and access to community programs, which encourage children and adolescents to develop lifelong healthy eating, physical activity and exercise habits.</p> <p>Support legislation which authorizes appropriately trained employees who supervise children involved in afterschool and recreation programs to administer epinephrine auto-injectors in response to an anaphylactic event.</p>

COMMUNITY SERVICES Staff Liaison Departments <div>Scope: issues related to childcare, parks and recreation, libraries, cultural arts, community and human services programs.</div>		
SENIORS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Programs</i> • <i>Care Facilities</i> • <i>Wellness</i> 	PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support efforts to develop and improve intergenerational recreation programs and activities that include seniors.</p> <p>Support legislation that facilitates development of senior residential and day care facilities integrated within the community-at-large.</p> <p>Support funding for wellness, physical activity, recreational programs, and day care for seniors on low or fixed incomes.</p>
PUBLIC HEALTH	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FIRE PARKS AND RECREATION	<p>Support an increase in the number of hospice beds allowed in the County for persons who are terminally ill or diagnosed with a life-threatening illness.</p> <p>Support legislation authorizing the study of synthetic turf surfaces for potential adverse health impacts.</p>
PUBLIC LIBRARIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Funding</i> • <i>Computers</i> • <i>State Public</i> • <i>Library Fund</i> • <i>Privacy Rights</i> 	LIBRARY	<p>Support full funding of the State Public Library Fund, understanding how libraries play an integral role in building and sustaining our communities.</p> <p>Oppose elimination or further reduction of the State Public Library Fund or other sources of library funding.</p> <p>Support legislation providing federal funding for improving pre-school reading readiness, for supporting public library services assisting elementary and secondary school students with information, research, and curriculum materials, for adult literacy and computer literacy instruction, and for acquisition of learning materials.</p> <p>Support federal funding for telecommunications equipment and services in public libraries to provide equal access to information for all residents; oppose requirements on use of federal funds for Internet access services for adults that mandate installation of filtering software.</p> <p>Oppose elimination of the California Library Literacy and English Acquisition Services Program.</p> <p>Oppose legislation that requires public libraries to install and maintain computer-filtering software for use on computers in the library that, in an attempt to block obscene materials, also prevents access to material protected by the First Amendment.</p> <p>Oppose legislation, regulations, and guidelines that erode privacy, information access and Constitutional rights, and oppose the use of governmental authority to suppress the free and open exchange of information and ideas.</p>